

Lake Wylie Marine Commission
January 28, 2013
CMC Steele Creak Healthcare Pavilion
Meeting Minutes (revised)



Commissioners Present: Chairman Terry Everhart (Mecklenburg County)
Vice Chairman Brad Thomas (Gaston County)
Commissioner Smitty Hanks (Gaston County)
Commissioner Ed Hull (York County)
Commissioner George Medler (York County)

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Howard Virkler (Mecklenburg County)
Commissioner Lynn Smith (Mecklenburg County)
Commissioner Robert Biggerstaff (Gaston County)
Commissioner Ron Wanless (York County)

LWMC Staff Present: Joe Stowe, Executive Director; Chris Clark, Legal Counsel;
Diane Dil, Commission Clerk

Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Everhart called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Item 2 – Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Thomas to approve the November 2012 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hanks and it was approved unanimously.

Item 3 – Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Hanks requested to add the discussion of bridge markings to the agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Thomas to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hull and it was approved unanimously.

Item 4 – Consent Agenda

No items were submitted on the consent agenda.

Item 5 – Public Comment

No one was present for public comment.

Item 6 – Stakeholders Reports

Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department – Officer Everhart reviewed the calls for service report for September–December 2012 for the Lake Enforcement Unit. They are preparing for the Boat Show and continuing regular boat maintenance.

Gaston County Police Department – Officer Hamrick reported

- They are still working on the purchase of a new boat. Officer Hamrick requested the Lake Wylie Marine Commissioners attend the County Commission meeting when the final proposal and budget request are made. He would like the Lake Wylie Marine Commission to show their support for the purchase of a new boat.

York County Sheriff's Office – Sgt Mabry reported

- They are on the water as needed.
- They are busy helping with the road patrols as needed.
- Plan to assist with the Boat Show.

Mecklenburg County Land Use and Environmental Service Agency (LUESA) – David Buetow reported

- There were no sampling reports to review this month. He reported on a chemical spill that occurred in the Paw Creek Watershed on Christmas Day. The spill contained both a petroleum product and acetic acid. Mecklenburg County responded and established dykes to maintain the spill. The contaminated area was pumped out. They continue to do soil testing. New security measures will be established to prevent this event from occurring in the future.

Duke Energy of the Carolinas – Ronnie Lawson reported

- Lake level – 97.6%
- Drought Management Group – Low Inflow Protocol (LIP) is at Stage 1 (voluntary conservation).
- Duke Energy approved a dredging permit for 1468 Barron Point, Rock Hill SC. They received an application to dredge in Withers Cove from CMFD. The Vineyards development is currently dredging. This permit was approved from their master development plan.

Lake Wylie Lakekeepers – Ellen Goff and Sam Perkins reported

- Patrolling was done by covekeepers during December 2012 and January 2013. CD Collins found and reported one violation. They received reports of loose floating docks.
- They are monitoring a new housing development and school construction project. These are both very large and will take several months to complete.
- Sam Perkins reported on Bear Creek violations. This is a neglected and stalled development within the Palisades. Stormwater runoff is a concern. They have advocated for additional stormwater retention.

Item 7 – Treasurer’s Report

Secretary Treasurer Ron Wanless was not present to review the financial statements.

Item 8 – Executive Director’s Report – Executive Director Joe Stowe reported

- **Invasive Species** – Mr. Stowe received a letter that 840 grass carp will be added to the lake in 2013.
- **Law Enforcement Center** – Ed Ware cut the grass last year. He would like to do it again, however he is asking \$75 per grass cut instead of \$50. Commissioner Hanks made a motion to pay Ed Ware \$75 per cut. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thomas and approved unanimously.
- **Law Enforcement Center Boat Ramp** – Mr. Stowe met with three contractors to receive bids on constructing the boat ramp at the Law Enforcement Center. The lowest bid was from Jonathan Edwards. Mr. Stowe feels that the Commission has better information after conducting a bathymetric survey and the problems encountered on the previous attempt to build a boat ramp should be avoided. Commissioners Thomas and Medler are concerned about awarding the contract to the same person who did not install the first ramp properly. Commissioner Thomas would like to add a clause to the contract that states the contractor is responsible for the outcome. Commissioner Hull made a motion to authorize Mr. Stowe to spend up to \$19,479 to install a boat ramp at the Law Enforcement Center that is fit for its intended purposes. Mr. Stowe is empowered to make the final decision for selecting the contractor. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Medler and approved unanimously.
- **Law Enforcement Center - North** – A water safety meeting was held in December with various law enforcement personnel and paddle craft operators. At this meeting it was suggested that having a law enforcement center at the northern portion of the lake may help increase police presence and help reduce the chance of paddle craft accidents. Mr. Stowe has begun looking at alternative locations and methods to add a law enforcement center to this area. Tailrace Marina has agreed to provide a space on their property for the building. He researched and found a possible metal building that may be affordable. He has received support from Gaston County Chief of Police. A discussion with zoning officials from Mount Holly revealed a number of costly additions that would be needed to meet the requirements of the Land Use Ordinance. These costs may make this type of structure too costly at this location. Chairman Everhart stated that this facility may not be the right answer to the problem. This is a multi-step process that needs education and public input. More meetings with additional stakeholders will be held.
- **Boat Show** – Mr. Stowe asked everyone to sign up to help staff the booth at the Boat Show.
- **Meeting with Jerry Orr** – Mr. Stowe and CD Collins met with Jerry Orr, Director of Charlotte Douglas International Airport. The meeting was to discuss potential runoff from construction of the next runway. Mr. Orr stated that the next runway will be built east of the current runway and will not be near Lake Wylie. There should not be runoff into Lake Wylie from this project.

Item 9 – Chairman’s Report – Chairman Terry Everhart reported

- **Update on Water Safety Meeting** – Chairman Everhart discussed the meeting held in December 2012. The next phase will include NC Wildlife.
- **Goal Setting Workshop** – Chairman Everhart thanked everyone for their attendance at the workshop. He felt that it was very productive and should result in a very productive year. One project was to add creek signs to roads and bridges. This process has already begun.

Item 10 – Old/New Business and Commission Project Reports

- **Water Quality**
 - Clean Boating – Commissioner Hanks recently spoke with Pat Durrett who manages the Clean Boating program in NC. She stated that there was a great response from the materials handed out at the previous Boat Show. The response rate was 10% for Clean Boating program applications.
 - Invasive Species – no report
- **Recreation**
 - **Boat Show Handouts** – Commissioner Thomas suggested purchasing Frisbees with the Marine Commission’s logo as the handout for this year’s Boat Show. Commissioner Hanks made a motion to purchase 500 Frisbees. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hull and passed unanimously.
- **Public Information** – Commissioner Hull stated that the meeting locations for 2013 needed to be added to the website.
- **Bridge markings** – Commissioner Hanks is working with NCDOT to get bridges marked with the state number and/or common road name.

Item 11 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

The next LWMC business meeting will be held on February 25, 2013 at Gaston College – East Campus.